



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Minutes of September 3, 2008

Approved October 1, 2008  
 MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE  
 SEPTEMBER 3, 2008

**Present:** Jane Auger, Joey Glushko, Elizabeth Karpati, Patsy Kraemer, Ann LeRoy, Leslie Mayer, David White.

The **minutes** of the May 7 and June 4 meetings were accepted with some clarifications and spelling corrections.

**Town Day**, September 20, 2008: Michele will coordinate since Ann has to be out of town. Plans were made for displays, handouts, and staffing

There will be a celebration along the **Minuteman Bikeway** on October 5, noon to 4 p.m. It is the fifth bikeway to be listed in the Rail Trail Hall of Fame and the only one in New England. Celebrations will be held in Cambridge at noon, Arlington (Jefferson Cutter House) at 1:30, Lexington at 2:30 and Bedford at 3:30. Details on Bikeway website. To be advertised on Town Day by Bicycle Advisory Committee.

**Spy Pond:** The endangered sedge that has been found along the shore must be monitored in September by a department of Fish & Wildlife to determine how much the pond level has to be lowered before weed treatment planned for next spring. A couple of specimens of what is presumably this sedge have been seen near the boat ramp in Spy Pond Park. There is a question of ownership: we think the State owns the land (bottom of a Great Pond) and the Town owns the water, but according to common law the State may own both.

### **Management Plans:**

- Leslie put the reformatted plans on a disk but it is uncertain where that disk is now and her computer has crashed. Ann has copies printed March 2006; Joey has copies printed September 2006 for display at Town Day.
- We don't know how or even whether these plans have been used, e.g. when planning the recent renovations in Menotomy Rocks Park. The plans were not put on the Town website because they were still a work in progress.
- We need to discuss how these plans should be used and how often updated. Suggestions: Leave the plans as originally written and add paragraphs of updates on a regular schedule (every X years) and also whenever major changes like renovations occur.
- All plans should be reviewed in 2009. Since some members have left the Committee since 2006, the plans they wrote were reassigned: Menotomy Rocks Park to Jane and Robbins Farm Park to Leslie. Joey will distribute hard copies of the plans to those responsible for reviewing each one.

### **Other:**

- Rain garden forum: no news yet about our request for a grant to pay for speakers. *[P.S. We did not get it.]* The Con Com may be able to help with material about invasives.
- Mill Brook: waiting to hear about possible help (advice, not money) from the National Park Service. Mia Lehrer will teach at Harvard in the fall; we should try to get her to come to a meeting.
- The water bodies fund (2006 warrant article) has been finally approved by the State. Money put into it is in the DPW budget but under the Town Manager's control.
- The Reservoir is being lowered. It is getting very weedy.
- FEMA has new flood maps for Arlington; a public information meeting is scheduled for 9/4.
- MassHighway has finished the construction work on Summer Street.